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(21) International Application Number: PCT/NL99/00776 (22) International Filing Date: 16 December 1999 (16.12.99) (30) Priority Data: 98204273.1 16 December 1998 (16.12.98) EP 99201286.4 23 April 1999 (23.04.99) EP 99201915.8 15 June 1999 (15.06.99) EP (71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): SCA HYGIENE PRODUCTS ZEIST B.V. [NL/NL]; P.O. Box 360, NL-3700 AJ Zeist (NL). (72) Inventors; and (75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): THORNTON, Jeffrey, Wilson [US/NL]; Jagersweg 13, NL-1272 AC Huizen (NL). SCHRAVEN, Bas [NL/NL]; Zwaluwstraat 128, NL-6541 NR Nijmegen (NL). THIEWES, Harm, Jan [NL/NL]; Nico Bergsteijnweg 147, NL-3931 CC Woudenberg (NL). VAN BRUSSEL-VERRAEST, Dorine, Lisa [BE/NL]; Kopeind 1, NL-2411 WG Bodegraven (NL). BEMPORAD, Luca [IT/SE]; Torggatan 12 Apt. 348, S-411 57 Gothenburg (SE). VERWILLIGEN, Anne-Mike [NL/NL]; Oude Amhemseweg 234, NL-3705 BJ Zeist (NL). BESEMER, Arie [NL/NL]; Burg. Jhr. H. v.d. Boschstraat 111, NL-3958		CE Amerongen (NL). KALENTUIN, Pia [SE/SE]; Stora Pölsanväg 7A, S-423 40 Torslanda (SE). (74) Agents: DE BRUIJN, Leendert, C. et al.; Nederlandsch Octrooibureau, Scheveningseweg 82, P.O. Box 29720, NL-2502 LS The Hague (NL). (81) Designated States: AE, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, CA, CH, CN, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, EE, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, NO, NZ, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG, SI, SK, SL, TJ, TM, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VN, YU, ZA, ZW, ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, CH, CY, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG). Published <i>With international search report.</i> <i>Before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of the receipt of amendments.</i>
(54) Title: ACIDIC SUPERABSORBENT POLYSACCHARIDES (57) Abstract <p>A process is disclosed for producing an acidic superabsorbent polysaccharide derivative, comprising the steps of: (a) crosslinking at least one polysaccharide containing acidic groups, such as carboxymethyl cellulose and/or 6-carboxy starch, with a crosslinking agent to produce a gel; (b) if necessary, adjusting the pH of the polysaccharide to a value between 3.5 and 5.5; (c) comminuting the acidified polysaccharide gel; and (d) drying the comminuted polysaccharide at elevated temperature. The superabsorbent polysaccharide obtainable by this process has a pH below 5 and provides odour control when contacted with malodorous fluids.</p>		